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12 February 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. D. J. Clinton, Department of State  
Lt. Col. David H. Smith, Department of the Army  
Capt. R. L. Styles, Department of the Navy  
Col. Sam A. Carnes, Department of the Air Force

FROM: Chairman, NIS Committee

SUBJECT: NIS Supplement I - Comments on Principal Sources

REFERENCE: Memorandum from Navy Member, NIS Committee,  
same subject, dated 5 February 1957

1. The subject memorandum contains recommendations in which I do not concur. The reason for continuing Section 7 of Supplement I as a separate "Comments on Principal Sources" has been stated to be the infeasibility of separating out comments relating to the individual Sections 2 through 6. Underlying this is a natural reluctance on the part of any contributor to lose credit for a section which would occur were my proposal to be carried out.

2. My reasons for desiring the integration of Comments into the substantive sections of Supplement I are more fundamental:

a. NIS policy requires "Comments on Principal Sources" to be in context with related substantive intelligence so that users may have knowledge of the (1) credence to attach to the intelligence, (2) the gaps in that intelligence, and (3) the principal sources used.

b. At Navy's request, OBI is processing and publishing Supplement I by individual sections, so that there may be an appreciable time interval before all sections of a given supplement are in the users' hands. This separate handling of sections provides flexibility in dissemination and use by those commands who require only the principal port features as were contained in the Navy Series 44 publications. Under these conditions, separation of pertinent "Comments on

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"Principal Sources" will mean that the user either will never see these Comments or will not have them available for long periods of time because of their delayed publication.

c. An examination of all printed Supplements I discloses that the sections on "Comments on Principal Sources" average 1 1/2 pages in length, the longest (USSR) being 4 pages and the shortest (Norway) being 1/4 page. The table showing adequacy coverage is broken down into categories of major, minor, and secondary ports which directly apply to Sections 2, 3, and 4.

3. In view of these considerations I propose, in lieu of the recommendations contained in reference memorandum, the immediate discontinuance of Section 7 of Supplement I and the addition of a new subsection, "Comments on Principal Sources," to each outline guide of Sections 2 through 6, Supplement I. It is the intent of this proposal that the contributor tailor his Comments to each section, except where the Comments require a common treatment, in which event such treatment will be repeated in each section.

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